



## Do you know these facts about **blood**?

- **Volunteer blood donors** are the **only** source of blood products for hospital patients.
- About **20 percent** of the blood used in the United States is **donated by students**.
- **One blood donor** could save as many as **three lives** with a single donation.
- Each unit of blood is divided into its component parts: **platelets, plasma** and **red cells**.
- **All donated blood** is tested for transmitted diseases.
- You **cannot contract** the HIV virus or any other infectious disease by donating blood.
- **Four million people need blood** every year. That's one patient every 12 seconds.
- **Patients in Michigan** hospitals use about **2,000 units of blood products** daily . . . that's about one unit every 43 seconds.
- The average **blood transfusion** is 3.4 units (or pints) of blood.
- The average adult has **10 to 12 units** of blood in his or her body. A new baby has **one cup**.
- People are eligible to **donate blood** every **eight weeks**.
- Nearly **97 percent** of the U.S. population will have received a **blood transfusion** by age 75, but only **5 percent** of the population **donates blood**.
- Close to **22 percent** of patients are over 65 years old. They use about **52 percent** of the **blood transfused**.
- Patients who suffer from sickle cell anemia, cancer, heart disease, leukemia and other major illnesses may need **blood transfusions** to survive.
- **Blood donors** must be at least **17 years old**, in good general health and weigh at least **110 pounds**.

# Please **give blood**